

Judicial Branch News



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Judicial Branch News

The Judicial Branch News is an online newsletter published by the Media Relations Department.

Contributing Writers

Scott Robert Loos
Todd Herrera-Ridenhour

Contributing Editors

Karen Arra
Vincent Funari
Mary Byrnes
Dennis Carpenter
Michelle Dunivan
Mary Vyverman
Kellie Therriault
Clara Colmenero
Norma Quiroz



Committed to excellence and the principles inherent in the rule of law...
every person, every day, every time.

Judge Q-and-A: Alfred Fenzel



Judge Alfred Fenzel

What do you like the most about your current assignment?

I am impressed by the enthusiasm and professionalism of the young lawyers who appear before me. I started my legal career as an Assistant District Attorney and can't help smiling to myself when I see these young lawyers struggling with the same issues I dealt with decades ago.

What advice would you give a new lawyer?

First, enjoy yourself. You are working in a great profession. Second, integrity is everything. It is likely that you will still be dealing with many of the same lawyers years from now. Memories are long. Gaining a small advantage or a win today isn't worth the loss of your reputation.

What do you think has changed the most in the legal profession since you attended law school?

Reliance on technology has revolutionized our profession. We are told that we are working faster and smarter. However, we've also become more impersonal. A text message, as opposed to a handwritten note or phone call, doesn't necessarily result in our working better.

What is your favorite thing to do when you are not working?

I enjoy traveling and gardening. I also do a lot of reading. My favorite books are biographies of not-so-famous Americans.

What piece of advice would you give your 20-year-old self?

We tend to worry too much. Things have a way of working themselves out. With respect to the law, don't forget that we are human. That is why they invented appellate courts.

If you weren't a judge what would you be?

I enjoy teaching. For a number of years, I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to teach at the University of Phoenix. The interaction with my students keeps me young and on my toes.

Visiting the State Capitol



Superior Court Judges, accompanied by AmeriCorps volunteers, shadowed state legislators for a day.

The outing, arranged by Judge David Gass, included sitting in on committee meetings, touring Wesley Bolin Plaza and listening to presentations. The AmeriCorps members were also recognized during the live legislative session.

Employee Anniversaries



5 Years

Patrick Mahaney, Judicial Branch Security Officer
 Grant McLeland, Judicial Branch Security Sergeant
 Margie Vasquez, Judicial Clerk Senior
 Danielle Owens, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Kellen Stadler, Management Analyst
 Madonna Anderson, Judicial Clerk
 Earle Lloyd, Judicial Branch Security Captain
 Joe Montanez, Business/Systems Analyst
 Margaret Tinsley, Hearing Officer
 Jenice Bennett, Judicial Clerk Senior
 Alejandro Espinoza, Juvenile Detention Officer

10 Years

Timothy Lee, Adult Probation Officer
 Karie Strauss, Adult Probation Officer
 Ryan Valley, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor
 Lori Young, Adult Probation Officer
 Gilbert Salazar, Juvenile Surveillance Officer
 Michael Shannon, Juvenile Probation Officer
 Cody Smith, Juvenile Probation Officer Supervisor
 Mark Warras, Juvenile Probation Officer
 Michael Fierro, Judicial Assistant
 Roger Hartsell, Court Commissioner
 Carla Waymire, Judicial Assistant
 Erika Balcazar, Case Administrator
 Roberta Navarette, Adult Probation Officer
 Heather Preston, Adult Probation Officer Supervisor
 Brandon Shimizu, Adult Probation Officer
 Kafi Grossley, Communications System Operator
 Manuel Chavez, PC/LAN Technician - Sr/Ld
 Mark Miller, Systems Administrator

15 Years

John Gilbert, Juvenile Probation Officer
 Tracy Becker, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Hillery Larkin, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Jesus Olivas, Juvenile Detention Officer
 Bernadette Buxton, Juvenile Detention Officer

20 Years

Kristi Ward, Adult Probation Division Manager
 Mercy Perez, Juvenile Surveillance Officer

25 Years

Vickie Johnson, Judicial Clerk Associate
 Susan Wood, Judicial Assistant

31 Years

Claude Renfro, Adult Probation Officer

32 Years

Tara Kramer, Court Reporter

Community Outreach: Read Across America



Superior Court Commissioners and Judicial Branch employees participated in Read Across America at CJ Jorgensen Elementary School in Phoenix. The volunteers included: Commissioners Phemonia Miller, Eartha Washington, Veronica Brame, Lauren Guyton, Adult Probation Officer Julicua Singleton and Juvenile Probation Officer Tayna Keith. Now in its 20th year, Read Across America focuses on motivating children and teens to read through events, partnerships, and reading resources.

Professional Buyers Day



Left to Right: Ted Ross, Nancy Oyler, Diane Cabanillas, Penne Garrett, Jennifer Gates, Shirley Villabrille, Phyllis Mack and Carl Walker. (Not pictured - Geff Weaver)

As part of Professional Buyer's Day, the Judicial Branch of Arizona in Maricopa County celebrates the hard work of the men and women who serve in the procurement office.

Professional Buyer's Day, March 8, is a day to recognize the efforts of the front-line person that most typically represents the core activities of the procurement profession.



This is Jeopardy. Now Entering the Studio: Shawn Friend

Law Library Resource Director Shawn Friend didn't take first place on Jeopardy but she was able to fulfill a life-long dream.

Friend, a huge fan of Jeopardy who began watching the show with her family in high school, was a contestant on the March 7 episode.

"I was so excited. I couldn't believe I was actually there," Friend said.

Friend has been trying to be on the show since 2008, and she finally got the call on November 2nd for the November 30th taping in Culver City, California. To qualify for the show, she was required to pass an online test and audition in Las Vegas, Nevada earlier in the year.

Leading up to her appearance, Friend prepared for and watched Jeopardy constantly. She studied books of the Bible, Shakespeare, the Civil War, operas and other popular categories that appear on the show.

"Law, literature, medieval history, classic television are all strong categories for me but it really just depends on the question." Friend said. "Geography was my weakest category and I did work on it, but the *A Watery Border* category was just too much for me."

Before the contest, Friend was nervous.

"The stage is amazing, and it looks like it does on TV. I just really wanted to get started! Once it began, it was just a game and it took my mind off the audience and the camera," Friend said.

Friend finished in second place, and won a prize of \$2000, but she really enjoyed the camaraderie with her fellow contestants.

"I was surprised at how uniformly nice all the other contestants were. We all had a great time together, and everyone was great fun to be around," Friend said.

Asked if she would have done anything different during the game, Friend replied, "I wish I would have made the last question a true daily double, but common wisdom is you don't do that late in the game."

Interpreters Receive Credentials



Mayela Trahin (left) and Ana Stine (right)

Mayela Trahin and Ana Stine, both official Spanish<>English Court Interpreters with Court Interpreting and Translation Services in the Judicial Branch, have been granted their Tier 3 professional credentials by the Administrative Office of the Supreme Court.

The credentials, mandatory since 2015, are granted upon completion of a series of training sessions and a certification examination, classifying the interpreters as certified for practice before the Court.

By Scott Robert Loos, Supervisory Interpreter

New Court Interpreter



Matthew Ren and Presiding Judge Janet E. Barton.

Upon completing his training program, Matthew Ren was sworn in by Presiding Judge Janet E. Barton as Court Interpretation and Translation Services' newest official Spanish<>English interpreter.

Matt practiced previously as a hospital interpreter and a telephone interpreter before coming to the Judicial Branch. His first work assignment will be before criminal commissioners in RCC and EDC.

By Scott Robert Loos, Supervisory Interpreter

eWork Pilot Project Launched in Family Department



Judge Katherine Cooper, Clerk Yvette Anchondo and Bailiff Michael Hohenstein test the new eWork application in iCISng.

Parties involved in a court case no longer have to wait hours or days for a Minute Entry to be issued. Family Department judicial officers may now issue minute entries, containing orders, as parties leave the courtroom.

The *eWork* application, a new pilot project, allows judicial officers to create and sign orders such as Parenting Time, Child Support, Legal Decision Making and more. As the pilot continues to expand, the orders will be eFiled with the Clerk of Court, allowing immediate access to other stakeholders, such as law enforcement. In the upcoming weeks, the pilot will extend to all Family Department divisions and include final orders.

Thank you to Family Presiding Judge Suzanne Cohen, Judge Geoffrey Fish, Judge Katherine Cooper, Judge Ronee Korbin-Steiner, Judge Ted Campagnolo and Judge Chuck Whitehead for participating in the pilot project.

By Todd Herrera-Ridenhour, Business Analyst